

brokerage operations company. In addition to their humanitarian benefit, stem cells have the potential to be the next medical industrial revolution. America has always been the leader in medical technology. Minnesota in particular has been called Medical Alley. America and Minnesota need to be leading the way in stem cell research, not sitting on the sidelines, watching the rest of the world pass us by.

In closing, let me offer this: A generation ago, pioneers in medical research developed in vitro fertilization, a technique that has now enabled my wife and me to have two beautiful children. My kids are living examples of the power of medical research.

I do not support slowing down the discoveries this research offers to millions, and allowing other countries to surpass America's leadership in medical technology.

That's why I am speaking out now, for the next generation. I don't want my children or anybody else's children to be told one day, "You are paralyzed, and will never move again."

I support those who champion this important research and thank them for helping change the future.

COLLEGE STUDENT RELIEF ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 17, 2007

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to voice my strong support for H.R. 5, the College Student Relief Act.

This important piece of legislation will make it easier for all students to attend college, and help reduce the burden on middle class families struggling to give their children a chance for a greater future with more opportunities.

Madam Speaker, if education is truly a priority of this country and this government, then let us act now and put our money where our mouth is. There is nothing more important to the future of this country than providing all of our children with a great education, and preparing them for a world which they will someday be required to lead.

Providing our children with the opportunity to receive an affordable college education is a legacy we can all be proud of, and is one that can define this 110th Congress in the most positive light.

At a time when college education is continually skyrocketing and middle and lower class families are seeing their budgets being constantly squeezed, lowering the interest rates on college loans will help those who need it most in our society.

Though some will say that the American economy has been booming over the last few years, and they will point to record increases in profits, salaries, and bonuses as proof, unfortunately Madam Speaker, many Americans have been left out of this great wealth and prosperity.

Today, we have an opportunity to help all Americans. By enacting this bill we are extending the opportunity for a brighter future through education to all sectors and classes of our society. American families need this bill. America needs this bill.

According to the Congressional Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance,

increased college costs will prevent over 4.4 million high school graduates from entering a four-year public institution over the next decade. I repeat, over 4.4 million, students will be unable to afford a quality college education over the next decade, Madam Speaker.

This restriction on higher education will not only hurt students and families, but it will have a devastating effect on our country as a whole.

At a time when the global economy is becoming more competitive and America's dominance in the fields of science, math, engineering, and technology is being challenged by countries all over the world, we need to be providing more opportunity to our best and brightest students, and give those who have been stuck in the generational cycles of poverty and despair, a chance to improve their life situations, and give their families opportunities that have eluded them in the past.

By the year 2020, according to the American Youth Policy Forum, the United States will be facing a dire shortage of college-educated workers that threatens our entire economy.

Madam Speaker we must act now to confront this threat. I urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill with bipartisan support, because doing so makes sense, and failure to do so will lead to consequences down the road that will affect our entire economy and way of life.

MOURNING THE LOSS OF THOMAS G. LYONS

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 18, 2007

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of my friend Tom Lyons, and I offer my deepest condolences to his family after his passing at the age of 75. Tom was a dedicated public servant who touched many lives and consistently rose to any challenge that came his way.

Thomas G. Lyons was born in Chicago in 1931, and he served his country honorably throughout his life. As a student at Loyola University of Chicago's School of Law, Mr. Lyons enlisted in the Army, where he rose to the rank of Captain in the Army Rangers, garnering recognition for his leadership and spirit.

Mr. Lyons took his lessons from Law School and the Army to his service as a litigator for the Cook County Assessor's Office, and later for the Illinois Attorney General's Office.

In 1964, Mr. Lyons successfully ran for a seat in the Illinois State Senate, where he would ascend to the Chairmanship of the State Senate Appropriations Committee.

In 1990, Mr. Lyons was elected to the Chairmanship of the Cook County Democratic Party, where he was its proud steward and a strong presence for seventeen years until his passing. During this period, Tom served with devotion and humility, always willing to lend a hand to any candidate, regardless of the scope or influence of the particular office.

In 1994, Tom was the recipient of an executive appointment by President Clinton to the American Battle Monuments Commission, in recognition of his years of service to our Nation and our military.

For over 40 years, Mr. Lyons dedicated his life to our Nation with steadfast dedication, humility, and geniality. In his home of Cook County, Tom's legacy of leadership will remain for years to come. Mr. Lyons is succeeded by his wife, Ruth, his three children, Alexandra, Rachel, and Thomas, and his eight grandchildren. I extend my deepest condolences and gratitude to the family of Mr. Lyons. We will miss him.

ESSAY BY MR. ANDREW O'ROUKE

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 18, 2007

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to congratulate Mr. Andrew O'Rourke for his articulate essay on the impact of the recent mid-term elections on the current U.S. policy in Iraq. Andrew is a 20-year-old sophomore at the University of Marquette, where his studies have focused on communications, business, and political science courses. His hard work in school has resulted in good grades, and he plans on attending law school after graduation. I am truly impressed by his insights, as well as the quality of his work.

Andrew's essay encapsulates much of the frustration with America's direction that has been felt by my constituents in the First District of Indiana. His essay also expresses the desire for positive change in America. Andrew compels his readers to think hard about what this country means to them. He writes of the pitfalls of shortsightedness in foreign policy, as well as the importance of protecting our civil liberties here at home. Finally, he calls on the need for bipartisanship in order to form a strong-willed consensus for the road ahead.

Madam Speaker, Andrew O'Rourke is an example of the great potential exhibited by the young people of northwest Indiana. Below, you will find the text of his essay, which I would like to have included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. At this time, I ask that you and all of my distinguished colleagues join me in commending Andrew O'Rourke for his well-written essay. I wish him continued success in all his endeavors.

While Democrats are better equipped now to make some difference in President Bush's foreign policy, no force will be able to influence the President more than a united Republican thrust in favor of U.S. troop withdrawal.

President Bush has proved rather stubborn on the subject of his foreign policy, specifically the aspects of said policy pertaining to Iraq and well, the entire Middle East in general. Despite the sweeping restructuring of the House and Senate during the mid-term elections, President Bush appears still to have no intent on altering the current policy in Iraq. An excerpt from a recent New York Times editorial summarizes my argument quite well. The like-minded author of this article believes that the President, "for all of his professed pipe dreams about democracy in the Middle East, refuses to surrender to democracy's verdict at home."

It seems an indictment of our system, supposedly the best in the world, that a mid-term election could serve the umbrella purpose of a referendum on one specifically controversial and pivotal policy, only to have